

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

A meeting of the Board was held in one of the rooms of the University, in this city, August 14th, 1852. Members present—E. W. Thomson, Esq., Chairman; Hon. Adam Ferguson, Mr. Sheriff Ruttan, J. B. Marks, Esq., R. L. Denison, Esq., and the Secretary. T. C. Street, Esq., M. P. P., was also in attendance, by special request, as President of the Agricultural Association of Upper Canada.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter, containing several suggestions, from John Harland, Esq., of Guelph, who was necessarily engaged at home in harvest operations. Mr. Harland observes, in reference to some Australian Barley and Wheat, and Russian Oats, which had been committed to his care :—

"I took care to plant the Barley and Oats which were confided to me by the Board. The Oats look promising, but the Barley, although planted in a most favourable situation, is absolutely *red* with rust, and I fear will be useless. I do not see any other Barley in the neighbourhood similarly affected. I am preparing a piece of land whereon to dibble the wheat.

The Secretary also read a letter, dated London, England, from John Arnold, Esq., who has manifested much interest in the introduction of sugar-beet manufacture into Canada. The following is a copy :—

LONDON, July 18, 1852.

DEAR SIR,—

I am just returned from the great Agricultural Show at Leves, where I saw much to admire, particularly among the Agricultural Implements. I did not, however, feel justified in forming any opinion as to their utility, particularly in Canada, till I read this morning the testimonials in favor of Bentall's Broadshare Plough, and which pamphlet containing them I now forward by the same post as this letter.

I could not help thinking how extremely useful an instrument it would be in Canada, particularly upon pea stubble, where our time is so short, and six acres a day may be thoroughly cleaned by it. I cannot resist the satisfaction of sending one to Canada, and at the same time accompanying it with a smaller machine, being the Mangel Machine and Potato Plough, which is of small cost.

If the Agricultural Society of Canada like to take these implements at cost and charges, they will be placed at their service—if they should

think proper to decline, I shall very readily keep them on my own account. I shall do my endeavours that they arrive in time for your great Exhibition in September.

With regard to the Beet Root Sugar, I have had an interview with the Secretary of the B. R. S. Factory in Ireland—the result of which has been by no means encouraging—as he thinks the price of labour would be too high with us to make it profitable. It would require two gangs of men—many of whom must be skilled artizans—for the works are continued night and day. This opinion has discouraged me from proceeding further—at the same time, the question is still open, whether it might not be advantageous to do as Mr. J. Hespeller proposed, to go over to Germany and make himself acquainted with the mode adopted by the farmers there.

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours truly,

JOHN ARNOLD.

Professor Buckland.

Resolved—That the Secretary communicate the thanks of the Board to Mr. Arnold, for the information and offers contained in his communication; and that a decision thereon be left to the Committee on Implements, at the approaching Exhibition.

The Chairman submitted to the Board a letter which he had received from the Hon. Malcolm Cameron, of which the following is a copy :—

AGRICULTURAL OFFICE,

Quebec, 29th July, 1852.

SIR,—

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Lower Canada Agricultural Society recommending to their consideration the Act 14 and 15 Vic. chap. 127, which appears to have given general satisfaction, it being of very great importance to have unity of action and one general system throughout the Province.

There are, I believe, some amendments to that Act contemplated by those who took the greatest interest in the subject at its passage, and I, therefore, through you, beg to call their attention to it now, so that any suggestions or amendments may be transmitted to this office at as early a day as possible.

I observe that Township Societies are not corporate bodies with power to hold real estate. I should wish to be informed if it is considered desirable that they should become so. And, I am further anxious for the views of the Board on the subject of Government aid, and the best means of making it efficient.

From all sources of information within my reach, I am not impressed with the advantages to be derived from Model Farms, but consider that Agricultural Teachers, and Scholarships, and